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deal of personal liberty, and only, when very ill, are people disposed to subject themselves to this.

According to the annual report of the administration, published in the month of August, there are at present in the leprosy hospital 61 persons, of whom 51 are Brazilians. Of these patients, there are 41 males and 20 females; 51 are adults, 10 are children.

During the past year there died 19 lepers. Death was caused in eight instances by cachexia leprosa, in one instance by the consequences of lepra anæsthesica, in four instances by tuberculosis, and in six instances by different diseases.

During the last year there were received at the hospital 22 patients, and 12 were discharged. The discharge, says the medical director, Professor Dr. Gabizo, did not result from any improvement in the conditions of the patients justifying their discharge, but from the fact that their continuance in the hospital is not obligatory, and it is difficult for physicians to struggle against the impatience and desperation of those unfortunates.

Since last report the following-named ships have been inspected and received bills of health of this office: September 8, steamship *Leonora*, Dutch, for Port Arthur; steamship *Germania*, British, for Port Eads; steamship *Aldgate*, British, for New Orleans. September 10, steamship *Litorno*, German, for New York; bark *Sarmento*, American, for Turks Island. September 13, steamship *Kaffir Prince*, British, for New York.

Respectfully, yours,

W. HAVELBURG, M. D.,

Sanitary Inspector, U. S. M. H. S.

The SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

FRANCE.

Mortality statistics for thirteen large cities.

MARSEILLES, September 24, 1898.

Of thirteen French cities containing above 100,000 inhabitants each, according to an official statement just published by the council-general of the department in which Marseilles is located, the vital statistics for the year 1897 were as follows:

Name of city.	Population.	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000.
Rouen.....	112,657	3,199	28.3
La Havre	118,478	3,052	25.7
Marseilles.....	447,344	11,068	24.6
Rheims	107,709	2,554	23.7
Lille.....)	215,550	4,886	22.6
Toulouse.....	149,012	3,301	22.1
Nantes	123,850	2,710	21.8
Saint-Etienne	135,784	2,831	20.8
Bordeaux	256,906	5,183	20.1
Roubaix	124,447	2,442	19.6
Nice.....	106,734	2,077	19.4
Lyons.....	466,767	8,762	18.7
Paris	2,511,629	46,802	18.6

Marseilles continues to occupy third place. During the month of May, 1897, 511 deaths were reported from typhoid fever. Of all typhoid fever cases reported, 13 per cent proved fatal. The cause of this outbreak of disease is attributed to impure drinking water provided by the city. An attempt is now being made to remedy this state of

affairs by a system of double canalization—that is, by conducting potable water in closed pipes laid in the canal which carries the main municipal supply. The council of hygiene expresses doubt as to the thoroughness of the reform now under way. The deaths from consumption numbered 1,032 in 1897, against 1,151 in 1896. The deaths from zymotic diseases during the year 1897 were: Typhoid fever, 511; scarlet fever, 14; smallpox, 18; diphtheria, 54; total, 597. The total death rate per 1,000 inhabitants has been as follows:

Year.	Population.	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000.
1888.....	387,994	10,871	28.0
1889.....	394,302	10,819	27.4
1890.....	400,610	12,709	31.7
1891.....	406,919	11,442	28.1
1892.....	413,983	11,567	27.9
1893.....	421,047	12,160	28.8
1894.....	428,111	11,533	26.9
1895.....	435,175	11,630	26.7
1896.....	442,239	11,902	26.9
1897.....	449,303	11,068	24.6

ROBERT P. SKINNER,
Consul.

The SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

TURKESTAN.

Plague suspected in Samarcand, Bokhara.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, D. C., October 31, 1898.

SIR: I have the honor to quote for your information the following telegram received on the 28th instant from our embassy at St. Petersburg:

“An epidemic disease resembling bubonic plague officially reported in Government of Samarcand.”

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

DAVID J. HILL.

Hon. SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

WEST INDIES.

Guadeloupe quarantines against New Orleans and Puerto Rico.

GADELOUPE, *October 2, 1898.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that the authorities here have declared a quarantine of nine days, including time of passage, against all vessels from New Orleans and from Puerto Rico ports. Vessels from any of the Lesser Antilles north of Guadeloupe are to be vigorously inspected and not admitted to pratique unless provided with proper health certificates.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

LOUIS H. AYME,
U. S. Consul.

Hon. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.